

## Message Text

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20

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OMB-01 IO-10

SAM-01 AID-05 /094 W

----- 108200

R 290600Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1976

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

/AMEMBASSY AMMAN 2609

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 5328

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, SA

SUBJECT: PRINCE FAHD VISIT TO PARIS

REF: PARIS 19419

1. PRINCE FAHD'S VISIT TO PARIS WAS GIVEN EXTENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE IN ALL PAPERS AND TV, THAT RIVALLED IF NOT SURPASSED THE COVERAGE OF KING KHALID'S RECENT VISIT TO EGYPT. LARGE HEADLINES EVERY DAY WERE UNDERSCORED BY MANY PHOTOS AND CARTOONS; NO NEWSPAPER SEEMED TO DOWNPLAY HIS VISIT. COMING HARD ON THE HEELS OF KING KHALID'S TWO-DAY VISIT TO EGYPT AND \$600 MILLION GIFT, FAHD'S FOUR-DAY VISIT, \$1 BILLION PLUS "LOAN" SEEMED TO MATCH THE KING'S ACHIEVEMENT. CERTAINLY THE MEDIA

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EFFECT WAS TO PUT PRINCE FAHD'S ACTIVITY ON A PAR WITH

THAT OF KING KHALID'S.

2. AS OF JULY 27 NEITHER ACTING FONMIN MOHAMMED MAS'UD NOR FRENCH CHARGE FOUGEROUSE HAD ANY SUBSTANTIVE INFORMATION ON THE RESULTS OF THE FAHD VISIT. FOUGEROUSE DID NOT THINK ANY FIRM LOAN AGREEMENT FOR 5 BILLION RIYALS OF SIMILAR AMOUNT HAD BEEN REACHED (ALTHOUGH THIS WAS MENTIONED IN THE LOCAL PRESS) BUT HE HOPED VISIT WOULD CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH SUBSTANTIAL SAUDI INVESTMENT IN FRENCH GOVERNMENT SECURITIES AND COMMERCIAL STOCK COULD TAKE PLACE. INTERGOVERNMENT COOPERATION SHOULD BE FACILITATED BY CONCLUSION OF A "GENERAL FRAMEWORK" COOPERATION AGREEMENT. AN IMPORTANT PURPOSE OF THE VISIT HE SAID WAS TO EXPOSE FAHD TO LEADING FRENCH FIGURES, AND TO MAKE AMENDS FOR THE VISIT THAT WAS ABORTED IN NOVEMBER, 1974 BECAUSE OF BAD PUBLICITY IN THE FRENCH WEEKLY L'EXPRESS.

3. WE WILL SEND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED ON THE VISIT WHEN WE FIND OUT ABOUT IT, BUT FIRST IMPRESSINS HERE CONFIRM HYPOTHESIS IN EXCELLENT REFTEL THAT TRIP'S POLITICAL IMPORTANCE, ESPECIALLY WITH REGARD TO INTERNAL SAUDI IMAGE-BUILDING, OUTWEIGHS ITS ECONOMIC SIGNIFICANCE.  
HORAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 JUL 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**To:** STATE  
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